



Higher National Unit specification: general information

Unit title: Contemporary Dance for Musical Theatre 1

Unit code: H4K5 34

Superclass: LB

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Unit purpose

This Unit is intended to develop contemporary dance skills used in Musical Theatre performance, together with Knowledge and Understanding of basic contemporary dance technique.

On completion of this Unit, the learner will be able to:

- 1 Demonstrate basic contemporary dance technique in the centre.
- 2 Demonstrate performance through basic contemporary travelling sequences.
- 3 Demonstrate performance through basic contemporary amalgamations.

Recommended prior knowledge and skills

Entry is at the discretion of the centre.

Credit points and level

1 Higher National Unit credit at SCQF level 7: (8 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 7*)

**SCQF credit points are used to allocate credit to qualifications in the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF). Each qualification in the Framework is allocated a number of SCQF credit points at an SCQF level. There are 12 SCQF levels, ranging from Access 1 to Doctorates.*

General information (cont)

Core Skills

Opportunities to develop aspects of Core Skills are highlighted in the Support Notes of this Unit specification.

There is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skill components in this Unit.

Context for delivery

If this Unit is delivered as part of a Group Award, it is recommended that it should be taught and assessed within the subject area of the Group Award to which it contributes.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards

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The sections of the Unit stating the Outcomes, Knowledge and/or Skills, and Evidence Requirements are mandatory.

Where evidence for Outcomes is assessed on a sample basis, the whole of the content listed in the Knowledge and/or Skills section must be taught and available for assessment. Learners should not know in advance the items on which they will be assessed and different items should be sampled on each assessment occasion.

Outcome 1

Demonstrate basic contemporary dance technique in the centre.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Centering
- ◆ Gravity
- ◆ Posture/stance
- ◆ Breathing
- ◆ Momentum
- ◆ Flow
- ◆ Alignment

Evidence Requirements

Learners will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills in all aspects of the following contemporary dance steps in the centre showing that they have an accurate understanding of the practical methods of executing each step. Learners are required to present a series of basic steps with control and co-ordination to include the following exercises as the minimum requirement for this Unit:

Centre Practice

- ◆ Parallel exercises
- ◆ Turned out exercises
- ◆ Roll Downs
- ◆ Swings
- ◆ Rebounds
- ◆ Jumps

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Contemporary Dance for Musical Theatre 1

Outcome 2

Demonstrate performance through basic contemporary travelling sequences.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Spatial Awareness
- ◆ Use of Space
- ◆ Directions

Evidence Requirements

Learners will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills in all aspects of the following travelling sequences showing that they have an accurate understanding of the practical methods of executing each step. Learners are required to present a series of basic sequences with control and co-ordination to include the following steps:

- ◆ Leaps
- ◆ Runs
- ◆ Walks
- ◆ Hops
- ◆ Extension
- ◆ Balance

Outcome 3

Demonstrate performance through basic contemporary amalgamations.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Understanding of rhythm and dynamics
- ◆ Effective portrayal of patterns, shapes and choreographed sequences
- ◆ Projection and style are maintained effectively
- ◆ Physical expression is appropriate

Evidence Requirements

Learners are required to present a minimum of three basic amalgamations from the steps learnt in Outcomes 1 and 2. Each amalgamation should last approximately 45 seconds.

The following requirements should be addressed:

- ◆ Technique
- ◆ Presentation
- ◆ Musicality
- ◆ Rhythmic quality

Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Contemporary Dance for Musical Theatre 1

This part of the Unit specification is offered as guidance. The support notes are not mandatory.

While the exact time allocated to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 40 hours.

Guidance on the content and context for this Unit

This Unit is designed to develop the learner's skills and knowledge of contemporary dance in Musical Theatre and is not designed for any specific style of contemporary dance within the Musical Theatre context. Learners should be given the opportunity to explore a range of contemporary dance styles within the Unit to allow them to establish their strengths, weaknesses and range of movement.

At this level, learners are acquiring the skills to demonstrate contemporary dance for Musical Theatre styles.

Outcome 1 equips learners with the basic technical skills required through contemporary centre practice to appropriately improve and execute Musical Theatre dance styles.

Outcome 2 enables learners to explore and implement Outcomes 1 and 2 within contemporary travelling sequences. These sequences will be taught to promote spatial awareness, improve movement memory, demonstrate performance and incorporate stylistic understanding.

Outcome 3 enables learners to explore and implement Outcomes 1 and 2 within contemporary amalgamations. These sequences will be taught to promote spatial awareness, improve movement memory, demonstrate performance and incorporate stylistic understanding.

Guidance on the delivery of this Unit

This Unit has been developed as part of the HNC/D *Musical Theatre* Group Award.

Lessons should involve mainly practical work which includes classwork, sequences and rehearsals although it is recommended that as many examples of contemporary dance in Musical Theatre be shown, discussed and evaluated to develop learners' awareness of the plethora of styles.

Guidance on the assessment of this Unit

Assessments will be recorded in order to ensure authentication of learner work. This could be done by use of assessment checklists and/or video.

Due to the Unit structure, Outcome 1 should be assessed first. Thereafter, the Outcomes may be assessed separately or concurrently.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Contemporary Dance for Musical Theatre 1

Assessment Guidelines

Outcome 1

Evidence should be generated by the performance of contemporary dance centre classwork exercises.

Outcome 2

Evidence should be generated by learners performing contemporary dance travelling sequences.

Outcome 3

Evidence should be generated by learners performing a minimum of three contemporary dance amalgamations of a minimum of 45 seconds each.

Online and Distance Learning

This Unit is not suitable for delivery by distance learning because it requires learners to take part in regular studio based practical sessions, which are required to be led and observed by a qualified practitioner to meet:

- ◆ Evidence Requirements
- ◆ Health and Safety Requirements

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

Outcome 2 demands a minimum level of cooperation from the learners whilst they are demonstrating their sequences, as they are also required to show spatial awareness in relation to the other dancers around them. This presents an opportunity to develop aspects of the Core Skill of *Working with Others*

Disabled learners and/or those with additional support needs

The additional support needs of individual learners should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments, or considering whether any reasonable adjustments may be required. Further advice can be found on our website www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements

History of changes to Unit

Version	Description of change	Date

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General information for learners

Unit title: Contemporary Dance for Musical Theatre 1

This Unit is designed to develop your overall skills and knowledge of contemporary dance in Musical Theatre and is not designed for any specific style of contemporary dance within the Musical Theatre context. You will be given the opportunity to explore a range of contemporary dance styles within the Unit to allow you to establish your strengths, weaknesses and range of movement.

At this level, you are acquiring the skills to demonstrate *Contemporary Dance for Musical Theatre* styles and you should also be encouraged to interpret these and create character styles.

Outcome 1 equips you with the basic technical skills required through contemporary dance floor work to appropriately improve and execute *Musical Theatre* dance styles.

Outcome 1 will cover the following:

- ◆ Stretches
- ◆ Leg Flexes
- ◆ Rises from the Floor
- ◆ Extension
- ◆ Contraction
- ◆ Rolls

Outcome 2 equips you with the basic technical skills required through ballet centre practice to appropriately improve and execute *Musical Theatre* dance styles.

Outcome 2 will cover the following:

- ◆ Parallel Exercises
- ◆ Turned Out Exercises
- ◆ Roll Downs
- ◆ Swings
- ◆ Rebounds
- ◆ Jumps

Outcome 3 enables you to explore and implement Outcomes 1 and 2 within contemporary dance travelling sequences. Sequences will be taught and assessed to promote spatial awareness, improve movement memory, demonstrate performance and incorporate stylistic understanding through:

- ◆ Leaps
- ◆ Runs
- ◆ Walks
- ◆ Hops
- ◆ Extension
- ◆ Balance